

## Message Text

PAGE 01 BONN 01966 061234Z

50

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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P R 061230Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0231

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

S E C R E T BONN 01966

EXDIS

NATO ALSO FOR MILLER

VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAF, PFOR, NATO, PARM, GW

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR STRATEGY: DEFENSE MINISTRY VIEW

REF: BONN 1644

1. ADMIRAL TREBESCH, DEFENSE MINISTRY DIRECTOR OF MILITARY POLICY AND PLANS, TOLD EMBOFF FEB 4 THAT FMOD TAKES RATHER FAVORABLE VIEW OF RECENT SECDEF STATEMENTS ON STRATEGIC POLICY. AT FEB 1 BRIEFING FOR DEFENSE MINISTER LEBER, TREBESCH HAD ADVISED THAT SECDEF STATEMENTS ON MILITARY TARGETS DID NOT REPRESENT A WHOLLY NEW POLICY AND PROBABLY HAD BEEN RELATED BOTH TO CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF DEFENSE BUDGET AND AS SIGNAL TO SOVIET POLICY MAKERS AT SALT. TREBESCH HAD ALSO  
SECRET

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CONTENDED THAT ENHANCING FLEXIBILITY OF U.S. STRATEGIC OPTIONS WOULD TEND TO REDUCE THE POSSIBILITY OF DECOUPLING OF AMERICAN STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS FROM U.S. TACTICAL AND CONVENTIONAL FORCES IN EUROPE. THE DEFENSE MINISTRY, LIKE THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, (REFTEL)

OBVIOUSLY WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON U.S. OBJECTIVES IN RECENT STATEMENTS. HOWEVER, ON BALANCE, TREBESCH CONSIDERED RECENT SECDEF STATEMENTS TO BE A FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE ALLIANCE DEFENSE POSTURE. TREBESCH TOLD EMBOFF THAT LEBER HAD CONCURRED WITH THIS INITIAL ANALYSIS BUT HAD ASKED MILITARY STAFF TO FOLLOW FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY AND REPORT.

2. COMMENT. INITIAL REACTION OF DEFENSE MINISTRY MILITARY STAFF REFLECTS CONSIDERATION OVER THE THREE WEEKS THAT HAVE ELAPSED SINCE SECDEF STATEMENT TO OVERSEAS WRITERS. NONETHELESS, TREBESCH MADE CLEAR THAT DEFENSE MINISTRY LIKE FOREIGN OFFICE HAS QUESTIONS CONCERNING TIMING AND BOTH DOCTRINAL AND PRACTICAL MOTIVATIONS OF U.S. STATEMENTS. FULLY CONSIDERED APPRAISAL BY SENIOR FRG FONOFF AND DEFMIN OFFICIALS WILL DEPEND ON DEGREE TO WHICH U.S. CONSULTATIONS MEET GERMAN QUERIES.  
HILLENBRAND

SECRET

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 27 JUL 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PARM, GE  
**To:** STATE INFO NATO BRUSSELS  
LONDON  
PARIS  
ROME  
BRUSSELS  
THE HAGUE  
MOSCOW

VIENNA

SALT TWO GENEVA

**Type:** TE

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